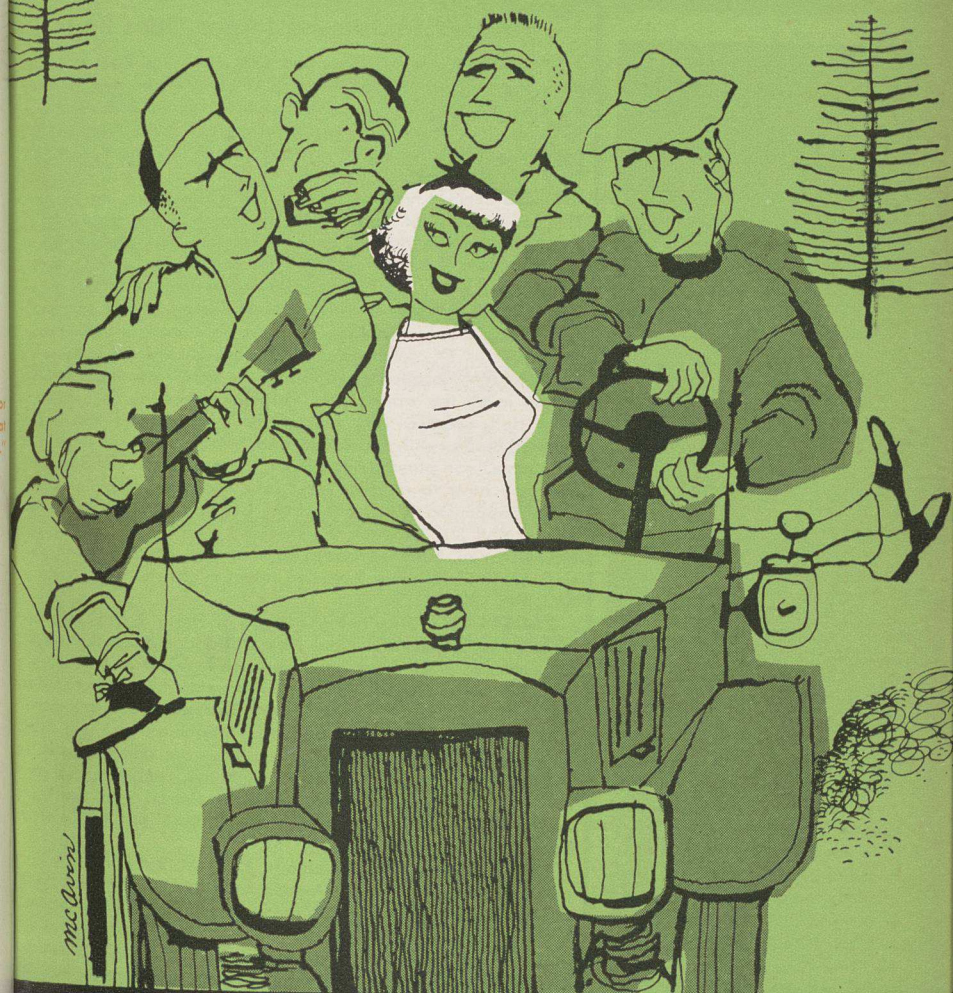


AUGUST 1950 • Vol. 8 • No. 8

Capitol
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

NEWS



Stan Kenton says:

MODERN MUSICIANS ARE LAZY!



SUGAR CHILE, the pride of Detroit, is rooting home his beloved Tigers in the hectic American League pennant race as it approaches the stretch run. And his baseball boogie, "The Bases Were Loaded," on a new Cap disc, also is proving a winner during the summer months. His piano, and his singing, have kept him a smash box-office attraction since he was 4. He's now an old vet . . . at 10.

'Cats, Valdes Filmed

The Harmonicats, led by Jerry Murad and the orchestra of Miguelito Valdes made a U-I musical short together in July. Will Cowan produced it.



An Old Middlewesterner Goes Back

ST. LOUIS: Home of Tums, Bud and Mississippi River humidity. More eateries per block than any city anywhere, and probably more ale houses too. Everyone is pulling for the Reds—oops—the Redbirds; Musial could be mayor. They call it the "Mound City" but it's not as hilly as San Francisco or its little sis, Kansas City. They buy more records here, per capita, than in most cities, and the radio deejays have become, in just a few years, big, big men. The newspapers (St. Loo boasts the finest in the world with its highly-competitive dailies) even review the new platters. But in a show town it is nothing. Not one big theater playing names, not one top nitery, no first-rate ballrooms—maybe records are all they can get in this overheated, baseball-crazy Mizzou' metropolis.

CHICAGO: Lake Michigan keeps it from being a St. Loo over. Much talk of TV, much competition for viewers. But radio—what happened? A decade ago, this was the spot, second only to Manhattan in all the world. Now virtually everything on the nets comes from Hollywood & NY. Jockeys here are behind the Petrifixer, Benkert 8-Ball, with musicians and bandleaders not allowed to do simple, non-playing interviews. Newspapers? Violently partisan; you have to read at least four a day to determine what is really happening. Much talk of the Cubs and Sox, little of it flattering. And just between us, wouldn't a little showmanship and old-fashioned ballyhoo liven up that dull Fair? It won't do until Sept. 4 and some imported talent might start those creative turnstiles spinning.

KANSAS CITY: They're right proud of Harry S. here, regarding him as real home folks. And they still dodge a hoodlum's ball occasionally; gang wars have gone on here for so long that the situation somehow doesn't seem unconventional any more. Newspapers? There's only one (the Star). Television? Just one channel (The Star's). Radio? Well, NBC's most valuable franchise is owned and operated by . . . the Star. The Blues are cellar-bound in the American Association and fans think the Yankees should send Joe Kuhel more help (what, and let Detroit play the World Series?). Not much doing here in music. Basie and all the others have been gone too long.

NEW ORLEANS: The fabulous Crescent Dixieland City. You mention the international situation and they angrily snarl, "yes, the trouble was all caused by those danged NORTHERN Koreans." Lotsa jocks here, spinning discs, and one finds far more exciting music in the little Bourbon street bistros than in all Chicago and St. Louis combined. The Pelicans are having a poor season, but nobody cares—the food's as great as ever and that's more the best in the whole, wide world. Hot here, bad as St. Loo. Must be the winding, lazy Old Miss!

DALLAS: Circling above the airport, one is convinced this is about the prettiest landscaping, and natural setting, of the state. Later, down on the good earth, you ask a muscular Texan about music activity in some of the other states. "Are there OTHER states?" he asks incredulously.

And so, back to California again!



SLAPPING HER bold signature prominently all over a spanking new long-term contract, Kay Starr agrees to make records only for Capitol for the next five years. She started with Cap in 1945 as a straight jazz chanteuse, and her "Hoop-Dee-Do" in 1950 will probably prove her biggest-selling plate to date. Witnessing the signature are Hal Stanley (left) her manager, and James B. Conkling of Capitol's artists and repertoire division in Hollywood.

Sacred Music Boom Brings Cap Contracts To Famous Singers

(Photos On Pages 8-9)

The remarkable and unprecedented rise in popularity of Negro sacred music—a trend which has become as pronounced as the Dixieland revival—brought new recording contracts to a flock of expert singers last month.

Capitol signed the Rev. R. A. Daniels, famous in the Pacific Northwest as the "singing preacher," as a baritone. His home is in Portland. Also recording for the first time was the noted Mt. Zion Church Gospel Choir of 35 mixed voices. In fact, the Rev. Daniels recorded with the Mt. Zion singers as featured soloist. Also landing a contract was Sister Goldia Haynes of East St. Louis, Ill. She's nationally known for her spirited caroling. Regularly heard on the purple Cap label in the same field are Sallie and Cora Martin, the renowned St. Paul Church Choir of Los Angeles and Juanita Jackson, of Atlanta, a fave in the South. Biggest hit record, at the moment, is "This Little Light of Mine" by the St. Paul Choir. It is outselling the Hit Parade leaders.

Buddy De Sylva Dies In Hollywood

Death came to George Gard De Sylva, world-famous songwriter, showman and one of the founders of Capitol Records, Inc., at Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital July 11.

De Sylva, known as Buddy, died of a heart ailment after a long illness. With Johnny Mercer and Glenn E. Wallichs he founded Capitol in 1942 while executive producer of Paramount Pictures.

Damone Playing The H'wood Field

"Welcome to Paris" is the title of the film which Vic Damone is making in Hollywood, at MGM. Jane Powell is the star and Vic's role is that of a French boy. He's not even trying an accent.

Romantically speaking, Vic is dating various film cuties. "My heart hasn't been broken by Liz Taylor," he said. Joe Pasternak is guiding Vic in his first screen role.

Whiting, Starr Renew Their Disc Contracts

Two of the nation's most popular singers signed new long-term recording contracts, in late July, with Capitol.

Margaret Whiting, who began her professional career with Cap in 1942, the year Capitol was founded, renewed her contract for a seven-year period. Kay Starr, who waxed her first biscuits for the label in '45—she was a strict jazz canary then—renewed for five years. J. B. Conkling represented the waxworks.

Whiting and Starr then trained out from Hollywood for eastern personal appearances. Both will have new records out this month.

Mag is teaming with Joe "Fingers" Carr, on one etching, and Kay has sliced a duet with Tennessee Ernie.



MARGARET YOUNG'S return to show biz as a recording star strikes her niece, Margaret Whiting, as something near to hilarious. Young Maggie is in New York this month, guesting on the Jack Haley TV show Aug. 10 and the Chesterfield and Coca-Cola stanzas Aug. 2 and 13.



JOHNNY GREEN, who for years led a dance band, without much success, then hit the golden jackpot in Hollywood as a film musician, notches another triumph on his belt Aug. 26 when he conducts in Hollywood Bowl.

The program, similar to the tribute to the late George Gershwin last month, will be designed to honor Dick Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein. Tunes will include hits from "South Pacific," "Carousel," "Oklahoma," "Allegro," "State Fair" and others; vocal soloists will be Muriel Maxwell and Thomas Hayward.

Green, who has performed in the Mr. Big Bowl previously, is now Mr. Big in MGM's music department.

Walter Gross, always a favorite among musicians but a virtual unknown to the public, gets a fair break himself at MGM this month when he rates a spot in "Royal Wedding." Gross also is seen frequently on TV in Los Angeles, in addition to massaging the keys as a single, in suburban niteries.

Does anybody recall a movie made right after the war, called "New Orleans?" Jules Levey was the producer, and it featured a batch of first-rate talent, Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday and the Woody Herman orchestra. On June 30, 1950, the Los Angeles Security-First National Bank foreclosed a chattel mortgage on the negative, prints and all rights to the picture. The amount allegedly owed the bank is \$307,327.

Lana Turner's picture, "A Life of Her Own," will feature solo piano by Jacob Gimpel. The film is completed and Lana now is



HOTTEST NEW attraction in Hollywood—some say she will become as big as Lana Turner—is blonde Marilyn Monroe, who chirped a tune or two with dance bands before getting her big break in Metro's "Asphalt Jungle." Marilyn also has modeled, for reasons which shouldn't require intensive investigation.

working opposite Ezio Pinza in "Mr. Imperium."

Al Viola and Lloyd Pratt, long featured on guitar and bass with the Page Cavanaugh Trio, left Cavanaugh and now are members of Bobby Troup's combo.

Frank Skinner is composing and conducting the big U-I studio organ on the "Harvey" soundtrack.

Cole Porter has been headquartered in Hollywood this summer, purportedly to audition talent for his "Out Of This World" Broadway musical to open in the fall.

Leighton Noble De Haven Bow At The Grove

Still one of the top rooms in the world after more than 20 years, the Coconut Grove of the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles will host an all-new show and bandstand attraction Aug. 1, a show which will replace the current one headlined by Tony Martin.

Leighton Noble's orchestra, which played Catalina Island a year ago, draws the music assignment. The band is set for three weeks.

Topping the Grove's show, marking her first personal appearance in Los Angeles since she thrashed with the late Jan Savory band eight years ago, will be Gloria De Haven. She's just returned from a New York theater and is one of the stars of 20th Fox's forthcoming "I'll Get By" film musical which is to be released in the fall.

Patricia Morrison will follow Miss De Haven, in late August. Frances Langford and Doris Shay likewise are booked to headline the shows later at the potted-palm rendezvous. Bands to be featured at Noble's crew winds up have been contracted yet.

Christy, Hutton Due At Mocambo

Hollywood's Mocambo, on the Sunset Strip, will present Jan Christy as its chief attraction starting Aug. 8 for two weeks. The King Cole Trio is currently there and Mel Tormé did two weeks in July, later moving down to Top's in San Diego, where he remains until Aug. 6.

June Hutton opens at Mocambo following Miss Christy on August 22 for two weeks.



DUE HOME in Hollywood after playing New York and Chicago theaters with Dave Barbour's combo, Peg Lee pulls into California Aug. 12 and will then await word from MGM as to how her recent test panned out. Peggy is up for a featured role in the Lion's soon-to-start film version of "Show Boat." Her collie didn't test — Lassie is at the same studio.

Paar, Nichols In RKO Film

A novelty feature film employing all types of entertainment, from dancers to Dixieland, has gone into production at RKO studios in Hollywood.

Radio comic Jack Paar heads the cast, and will emcee for the dozen acts to be filmed. Also signed for scenes are Red Nichols and his Pennies still blowing the jazz at Sardi's in Hollywood nightly. Red Buttons, the comedian, and the Elderlovies from Ken Murray's old "Blackouts" show also are being lensed, according to the pic's producer, George Bilson.

Title of the production is "Footlight Varieties."

Songwriters To Blame For Inferior Tune Crop, MGM Bigwig Charges

"If we're not getting great songs today on the same scale as 10, 15 or 25 years ago, it's only because they are not being written. It is not because the public doesn't want them."

Shove that in your pipe and smoke it, for those words come from one of the nation's veteran songwriters, Arthur Freed, who became so successful as a tune-cleaver that he's now a top producer of films at MGM.

A New Era Coming?

Freed, now 55 years old and the composer of hits like "Singing in the Rain," "I Cried For You," "It Was So Beautiful" and "Pagan Love Song," and a member of ASCAP since 1924, also was responsible for recent films like "Annie Get Your Gun," "Meet Me in St. Louis" and "On the Town."

"American music went through its great era—from 1920 to 1935, the jazz era—and created most of today's great standard hits. It also created such names as Gershwin, Kern, Youmans. New names in a new form of music.

"We've had many changes in this music that they developed. And we've lost many of the names. And their loss is as much a cause as any other of the plight of popular music today.

Movies May Help

"It's a moot question perhaps whether the era created the great composers and the great songs of the 20's and 30's or whether these men and these songs helped fashion the era. This thing called jazz undoubtedly had an important part in the history of our times. Whether or not we are going into another, completely new, era remains to be seen."

Movie musicals, he feels, may have a lot to do with getting the music business back to the so-called "normalcy" that everyone says it's gotten away from.

"The movie musical has already had a strong effect on the stage musical, as witness "South Pacific," a production that carefully follows motion picture technique. Thus the movie musical should reach the point in American music where it's giving the country the songs that once came only—or mainly—from Broadway shows."

Hollywood has had a good start. It's developed a number of its own songwriters and—Freed feels certain—will develop many more in the era we're now entering.

The movie musical, he says, is here to stay. It will become more popular than ever, he predicts.

13 States Hit By Brown Band

Les Brown and his band, with Lucy Ann Polk as oriole, point towards the Pacific coast this month after a whopping tour which even found the band playing a one-nighter in Fruitport, Mich.

On Aug. 26, after a tiring string of one-night stands in Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Ontario, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas—all those states played in August alone—Brown's bombers do a night in Fort Worth. Then it's back to Hollywood. Les will concentrate on radio, probably with Bob Hope again, as well as occasional "in person" appearances in California during the fall and winter months.

Capitol Western Hits

'I COULDN'T DO A THING
WITHOUT YOU'— Leon Payne

'HAPPY FEET'— Tex Williams

'AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS
BUT MY OWN'— Kay Starr and Tennessee Ernie

'I'VE GOT FIVE DOLLARS AND IT'S
SATURDAY NIGHT'— Tex Ritter

'SOMETIME'— Foy Willing

'SUGAR PLUM KISSES'— Jimmy Wakely

'SLEEPY EYED JOHN'— Ole Rasmussen

'SUGAR BABY'— Eddie Kirk

'TAKE A LOOK AT THIS BROKEN
HEART OF MINE'— Hank Thompson

'I'LL SAIL MY SHIP ALONE'
Ramblin' Jimmie Dolan

Available on either 78 or 45 rpm



SHOWN WITH just a small part of her collection of music boxes, Nellie Lutcher will spend much of her time in August getting ready for her coming trek to England. Nat Cole also is booked for a tour through the British Isles starting in September. They'll be following each other, in fact, on the same trek which Lena Horne is making now. Neither Nellie nor Nat has ever crossed the Atlantic.

Lutcher, Cole Heading For England Next Month

That long-planned trip to Europe, to play before British audiences which have been buying their records in big batches for several years, will materialize in September for Nellie Lutcher and Nat (King) Cole.

Nellie will sail on Sept. 25 from New York. Her tour will get under way on Oct. 2 and she is booked for eight solid weeks of theaters, not only in London, but also in the British provinces.

Cole Abroad Only Six Weeks

Cole boards a steamship Sept. 13, following an Aug. 7-20 engagement at Top's in San Diego. His tour is for six weeks. Going with Nellie will be Benny Booker, bass, and Earl Hyde drums. Accompanying Nat will be Irv Ashby, guitar; Jack Costanza, bongo thumper, and Joe Comfort, bass.

The British tour for both attractions was set up by their personal manager, Carlos Gastel, with the Lew Grade Agency of London and General Artists Corporation, New York. Both Nellie and Nat will be playing the same circuit that Lena Horne has been working this summer in the company of her husband, Lennie Hayton, noted MGM musical director.

Lutcher Now Playing Canada

Nellie has a heavy schedule facing her even before she sails. Now at the Palomar Supper Club in Vancouver, she will perform Aug. 14-20 in Seattle, Aug. 21-27 in Portland and Sept. 1-10 at the Horse Shoe in Rock Island, Ill. From there she goes to New York and the boat.

Silvers Quits As Lux Radio Music Chief

Louis Silvers resigned on July 5 as musical director of Lux Radio Theatre, a post he had held for the past 15 years. Long recognized as one of Hollywood's top musical composer-directors, Silvers has held down berths at MGM, Columbia and 20th. He served as musical director for first all-talking picture, "The Jazz Singer," and wrote the music for Jolson's "April Showers."

Silvers will take a long vacation before leaving for New York, where he intends to become "mildly associated" with television.

Ciro's Signs Page

Patti Page has been booked to follow Frankie Laine at Ciro's, ornate Sunset Strip nitery in Hollywood. Laine, who is at Ciro's now following his honeymoon in South America, is bucking the King Cole combo at nearby Mocambo. The Ciro's run will be the first Miss Page has had in California; most of her appearances have been limited to the Middle-west.

WB Shaping Music For Four New Pix

Four films are "getting the works" at Warner Brothers this month, from the music standpoint. Ray Heindorf is pre-scoring songs for "The West Point Story," Max Steiner is scoring "The Breaking Point" and "Sugarfoot," and William Lava is shaping the score for "The Two-Million Dollar Robbery."

Stern Turns Ham

Harold Stern, violinist and bandleader now at the Beverly Hills Hotel, will play himself in "Counterfeit," an upcoming Allied Artists production starring Don DeFore and Andrea King. Stern will conduct an ork in a nitery scene. Boris Ingster directs the feature.



One of the strong trends of 1950, on records, has been the undeniable upsurge in popularity of sacred music.... In the South, on the Pacific coast, in New England, throughout the Middlewest, everywhere across the nation, religious music is enjoying an emphatic revival.... Pictured here are some of the artists who have helped spark this movement on discs. A part of the big (170 voices) St. Paul Church Choir of Los Angeles is shown, attired in church robes and prepared to broadcast via KFWB. It is probably the most popular Negro sacred group on records anywhere. Mother and daughter, Cora and Sallie Martin, have won national popularity with their records—their latest being “Satisfied” and “Love Like a River in My Soul.”... The other group, with the Rev. R. A. Daniels featured as pianist and baritone soloist, is the Mt. Zion Gospel Choir. That’s the young Reverend Daniels at the piano keyboard.... At the mike, waxing her first platters, is Sister Goldia Haynes of East St. Louis, Ill., whose popularity has spread nation-wide since she made her debut on discs just a few months back. Not all music is Dixieland these days!



Ramblin' Jimmie: Busiest Westerner? He's Doing Five Radio-TV Shows

Ramblin' Jimmie Dolan may very well be the busiest westerner in radio and television.

He's got five radio and TV shows every week in the Greater Los Angeles area, four of them radio over KALI, KXLA and KFOX and one on KLAC-TV, every Sunday evening. On top of this schedule, Ramblin' Jimmie plays, in person, at Pop's Willow Lake Dance Hall. Know of anybody any busier?

Ole Also On Television

Also making a big stir in California television circles is Ole Rasmussen, who started his own TV show over KFI in Los Angeles July 15. Ole's program features vocals by Ted Wilds and, of course, his famous Cornhuskers band.

Tennessee Ernie—and have you latched onto his duets with that Kay Starr gal?—will be heard as a solo performer on the Meredith Willson network program in early August. We know that for sure, 'cause it was all recorded on tape a couple of weeks ago in Hollywood; also booked for an appearance with the Iowa conductor is Smiley Burnett, who will be heard about two weeks after Ernie appears.



MEET JESS WILLARD, who may become as popular in the entertainment field as was his namesake of an earlier era in the sports world. Jess, born in Washburne, a town outside Amarillo, comes from a musical family and got his experience touring with the late Jack Guthrie. He even sings and plays a lot like his pal Guthrie did; his latest record sides for Capitol include "Two-Dollar Diamond Ring" and "Trouble Then Satisfaction."

Roy Hogsed is in his fourth year at the College Inn in San Diego.

Spade Cooley headin' east this month, with his band. Pinky Savitt joined him on hot trumpet. Nellie Lutcher helped Spade put on one of his all-time finest TV shows over KTLA in July.

Willing Willing

Foy Willing, who is under contract to Republic, jumped right back to work in another film with Roy Rogers following the completion of his other one with Roy in July. Willing, a willing worker, just recently also was a star at the Utah State Fair in Salt Lake City.

Tennessee Ernie and Cliffie Stone have just signed new contracts with Capitol which will keep them busy making records for the next seven years at least, figuring time off for good behavior.

Jim Wakely vows he will do nothing but vacation in August.

Sponsor Okays Stone

Also loafing solidly this month is big Cliffie Stone, who is cooking a television program with Tennessee Ernie. Stone's airshow has been renewed for 13 weeks by his hair-oil sponsor — isn't that slick.

That man Willard there in the picture, he lives now in the Compton (Cal.) area and his hobbies include fishing and hunting. At one time during his long career, after leaving his Texas home, he promoted a dance hall in Klamath Falls, Ore. And now dance hall promoters are promoting him!



DOES THIS long-stemmed beauty, Yvonne Doughty, look like a peanut vendor to you? Well, that's the way pv's look in Hollywood; Yvonne personally toted cans of goobers around to the city's disc jocks in a razzle-dazzle promotional venture with Buddy Cole, left, whose organ solo of "Peanut Vendor" has just been released. At right is KLAC-TV's Jim Hawthorne. Nuts for a nut, Yvonne said.

Game Set For Aug. 21; Get The Iron Lung!

Risking fractured legs, split digits and sore muscles, many of Hollywood's most popular band-leaders, singers and picture stars are practicing these humid afternoons for the fourth annual "Out Of This World" benefit softball game Aug. 21 at Gilmore Field, home of the Hollywood Stars of the Pacific Coast League.

Paul McClure of the Hollywood Junior Chamber of Commerce is chairman of this year's contest, replacing Ralph Kraus. Last year, 14,000 attended the event in which Frank Sinatra's clowns outscored Andy Russell's Bushers for the third straight time.

Modern Jazzmen Lazy and Confused, Stan Kenton Apologetically Opines

Living the good, the easy life along the shore of the blue Pacific this summer, playing weekends only at the Rendezvous Ballroom at Balboa Beach—about an hour from Hollywood—Stan Kenton has found time to contemplate life,

music and stuff. And while he is all set to kick off the 1951 edition of his "Innovations" music next January with a 40-piece concert crew, he's objective enough to give his unprejudiced views on the current state of things musical in America.

"Modern jazz musicians," Stan says, "are a little lazy—and confused."

"They are confused about the urge to create new sounds. They think new sounds can be conceived and performed mechanically. And this misguided attitude has harmed—is still hurting—the

real emotional character of modern jazz and bebop. Why, it's like a tinny, gaudy musical.

"I told all this the other day to a writer for a British jazz magazine and I might as well say the same thing for America's musicians and music lovers—I say that musicians who play progressive music should listen to a down-to-earth, honest blues record and see what those older, more experienced musicians have in their playing that we haven't got."

"We should, we must, get back to the real value of our music from an emotional standpoint. Listen to Armstrong. Listen to Hines.

"We who are dedicated to progressive jazz are, for just one example, attempting to blow a saxophone legitimately, and as we move ahead harmonically and dress up our sounds, we then get restrictions and restraints. Today, for instance all the tenor men are trying to play like alto men. There are no genuine tenor sax sounds today."

"We in modern jazz have to overcome this. We have to restore the true emotion and tonal values, otherwise people are going to continue going back to Dixieland. That's what they admire about the older music: it's honest, it's naked and basic and true."

"We who believe in modern music should go ahead and play what we believe in because one of the most important things in life is to have the courage of your convictions!"

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MONICA LEWIS, who tested at MGM a few months back while working a Hollywood night spot, got an okay from Metro's brass and will be seen in that studio's "Three Guys Named Mike," which has Jane Wyman as star. It's a story about air hostesses.

"Time For a Song," the program featuring Jo Stafford which is transcribed in Hollywood and beamed out over Europe every Sunday evening, has been renewed for another 26 weeks. In the area served by the powerful Luxembourg station, there are 31,908,771 radio sets registered, and the potential audience is rated around 62,000,000 people. Jo not only sings, she reviews motion pix, attempts to predict future hit records, and she interviews various film players. Fan mail? "We really get it," the thrush admits. "Everything from requests for information on the Marshall plan to proposals of marriage."

Dick and Nora Haymes bought a new house in Palm Springs, Dick flying into Hollywood every few days for radio and recording work.

That new deal Frank Sinatra just set with CBS, including both radio and TV starting this fall, guarantees the New Jersey baritone \$250,000 annually, even if he goes unsponsored. Sinatra, meanwhile, spent July in England for reasons which (see photo in next column) appear glaringly obvious.

Della and Andy Russell are out on an eastern tour again.

Following his current Ciro's run, Frankie Laine skids east, opening



Sept. 1 at the Riverside in Milwaukee for a week.

Dinah Washington lost \$500 cash—which she had hidden in her laundry bag—to a thief during her run at the Oasis in L. A.

Emma Lou Welch, one of the more recent of many Benny Goodman canaries, joined Jerry (Clarinet) Wald's group in Hollywood.

Paul Neighbors and his band drew their umpteenth holdover at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel.

Southern Comfort

Her film work in Spain completed, Metro's Ava Gardner, a one-time Artie Shaw wife, swung over to London in July to tackle another role. Hailing from the deep, deep South, La Belle Gardner has made her biggest impression in the celluloid field as the worldly nitery songstress in "The Hucksters" opposite Clark Gable. And her Hollywood record collection is said to be as big as they come.



THE TV industry will come of age this fall. And it will be a battle for viewers among the mighty networks and independent stations in every city where TV exists.

NBC, for example, in just a few weeks will begin its fall schedule with Eddie Cantor, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis, Fred Allen, Milton Berle, Paul Winchell, Kay Kyser, Morey Amsterdam and Jerry Lester heading up shows, most of them new.

CBS, with Arthur Godfrey, Fred Waring and other vets, is well aware of the NBC threat. Frank Sinatra, Burns and Allen and Joan Davis have all been signed for new TV shows. ABC is placing its pitch on Paul Whiteman, Edward Everett Horton, Arlene Francis and others.

Music a Problem

And the independent stations in every TV city likewise are bolstering their programs. Unable to afford names like Berle and Cantor, they'll be emphasizing local sports and civic events. On this, the big nets can't compete.

Music? Well, that's still the big question mark in television. It is difficult to attract—and keep—a huge audience with straight melody. Televising a dance band makes for dull screening. Even a name singer, if he or she is just singing falls short on entertainment value after the first few minutes. They've got to tell jokes, introduce a comedian or wear low-cut gowns, else the viewers switch channels abruptly.

Jockeys a Bore

In Los Angeles, every station has a TV disc jockey. They're all pretty much alike, reading dull commercials, chatting "informally" with the same dull musician and singer guests, occasionally



THE COUNT, Bill Basie, swings into Los Angeles this month for a run at the Oasis. It will mark the first time Basie has ever played the west coast with a small combo. His big band, for a dozen years, was a California favorite.

28 Films For TV Put In The Cans

Jerry Fairbanks has completed 28 TV and radio commercials for Oldsmobile. Cast for the series includes Billie Burke, Mercedes McCambridge, Joan Leslie, Mel Torme, Diana Lynn, Martha Tilton, Ruth Hussey, Kenny Baker, Gale Storm, Connie Haines, The Modernaires and The Sportsmen.

Strauss Musical Will Be Flickered

Max Opuls signed a contract on July 6 with producer Gustav Wachtl to direct "Artist's Life," a biographical musical based on the lives of Johann Strauss, the elder, and his son. Financed by Swiss and Austrian banking interests, the film will be made in and around Vienna. Opuls will begin directing Sept. 4, on a 12-week shooting schedule, and will return to Hollywood after New Year's, he said.

playing a record. It's all a bit boring.

But the TV jocks, we'll concede, sure sell a lot of reconditioned vacuum cleaners.



IRVING HOFFMAN In the H'wood Reporter

"Oddly enough, one of the most popular songs of Ireland today, 'I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen,' has no Irish connections. It was written over 70 years ago by an American composer, Thomas Westendorf, as a musical promise made to his wife, Kathleen, in which he stated he would take her back to her home in Germany."

LOUIS ARMSTRONG In the Record Changer

"I've been playing 37 years. When I was 13 years old I was developing my lip, playing in street parades. . . . A lot of trumpet players . . . their lips get tired and they don't make any effort to strengthen them. I put those spirits of nitrate on my lips now and then. My mother used to put it in water and give it to us to drink, for fever, when we were kids. So I know if I slap a little of it on there, I'm not going to have any trouble blowing my horn."

CHARLIE BARNET In Down Beat

"I had nothing but grief with my little novelty combo. MCA booked us into strictly wrong places; places which cared only incidentally about music. People felt sorry for me. Fans would tell me they were sad I was down and hoped I'd recover my fortunes soon."

JELLY-ROLL MORTON In "Mister Jelly Lord"

"People believe that Louis Armstrong originated scat-singing. I must take that credit away from him, because I know better. Tony Jackson and myself were using scat for novelty back in 1906 when Louis was still in the orphan's home."

10 Million Bucks For 'My Way' Pic

Remember the Paramount pic of 1944 starring Bing Crosby, "Going My Way?"

The studio, after exhibiting the flicker six years through 29,985 bookings all over the world, revealed that it has now grossed \$10,000,000, a modern record. In addition, it brought Crosby an Academy Oscar. It will be reissued throughout the United States this fall.



DAVE CAVANAUGH'S COPS: The Casino on Catalina Island.

JERRY GRAY: Palladium.

NAPPY LAMARE: The Palladium.

RED NICHOLS: Sardi's.

COUNT BASIE: The Oasis.

LEIGHTON NOBLE: Cocoonut Grove.

PAUL NEIGHBORS: Hotel Biltmore.

VIDO MUSSO: York Club.

KID ORY: Royal Room.

BEN POLLACK: Beverly Cavern.

JERRY WALD: Wald's Studio Club.

MILT HERTH TRIO: Catalina.

JESS STACY: Lark Club.

ARTHUR VAN: Colonial Ballroom.

TED VESELY: Tom-Tom Club.

PAGE CAVANAUGH: Encore.

EDDIE HEYWOOD: The Epicure.

CLYDE HURLEY: Ace Cain's.

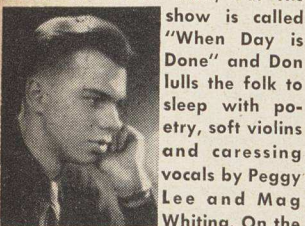
JIMMIE MADDIN: Burgundy Room.

GEORGE SHEARING: The Oasis.

MARTHA DAVIS: Surf Club.

MEET THE JOCKEY!

DON KENNEDY urges his listeners to "let your subconscious take over" while he mans the mike at WBVP in Beaver Falls, Pa. His



show is called "When Day is Done" and Don lulls the folk to sleep with poetry, soft violins and caressing vocals by Peggy Lee and Mag Whiting. On the

air for more than two years, Kennedy also likes jump music, and his night shift, once a week, is devoted to hot jazz. Only 19, Don airs nightly from 11:10 until midnight. The Geneva College kids think he's super.



RAY ANTHONY'S crack vocal group, the Skyliners, in action on their recent engagement at the New York Statler. Betty Holliday and Ronnie Deauville, shown with the group are featured vocalists. The band was just signed, in July, to play a return Statler date starting Nov. 27. And Ray, his trumpet and troupe also are due in California shortly.

Jerry Gray's 'Like Miller' Band Breaking In At H'wood Palladium

Another entry in the "Sound Like Glenn Miller" orchestra sweepstakes is making its bow this month, this time at the Hollywood Palladium. Former Miller arranger and one-time fiddler Jerry Gray opened on July 25 with his new band. It's a lot like the Ray Anthony, Tex Beneke and Ralph Flanagan bands which also emulate the late Iowan's style.

Four musicians who were prominently featured with Miller are spotted with Gray, Willie Schwartz on clarinet lead, John Best and Dale McMickle, trumpets, and Jimmy Priddy, trombone.

Others in the Gray lineup include Jimmy Rowles, piano; Al Hendrickson, guitar; Joe Mondragon, bass; Alvin Stoller, drums; Murray McEachern, Tom Pederson and George Arus, trombones; Frank Beach and Conrad Gozzo, trumpets; Ted Nash, Jules Jacob, John Rotella and Jimmie Rudge, saxophones.

"I never wanted to cash in on Glenn Miller's reputation," Jerry

said, "but with all the other bands coming up and playing what they think is Miller music I decided it was time to step in and produce some of the real stuff."

MEET THE JOCKEY!

DON GABRIEL is the "waker upper" in the Cleveland area, gabbing, whirling discs and hitting the time gong every morning



on his own "By Dawn's Early Light" stanzo over WJW. He's up and at 'em every day at 5:30, on the air from 6 to 7:30, and he tries to

present all types of music while he is mike-side. A popular feature of WJW since September of 1946, Gabriel likes to emphasize the temperature outdoors—warning his listeners just what to face when rise and shine off to work and school.

Capitol Hits

'MONA LISA'- Nat 'King' Cole

'BONAPARTE'S RETREAT'- Kay Starr

'NOLA'-JEALOUS'- Les Paul

'NO OTHER LOVE'- Jo Stafford

'SAM'S SONG'-SNOOKIE OOKUMS'- Joe Fingers' Carr

'YOU'RE MINE YOU'- Margaret Whiting

'SENTIMENTAL ME'- Ray Anthony

'SHOW ME THE WAY TO GET OUT OF THIS WORLD'- 'HAPPY MUSIC'- Peggy Lee

'I LOVE YOU BECAUSE'- Jan Garber

'MISSISSIPPI'- Kay Starr

'BEWITCHED'- Mel Tormé

all on either 78 or 45 rpm

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The Straws Hit Films



EMERGING WITH a big west coast following from the current revival of Dixieland, Nappy Lamare and his Strawhat Seven took time off, last month, from their nightly chore at the Hollywood Palladium to be featured in a Universal-International musical featurette, one of a series produced by Will Cowan. Clarinet, at far left, is Johnny Costello. On drums is Roy Harte. Then there are Brad Gowans on trombone, Jack Peoples, the pianist; Joe Graves, trumpet; Pud Brown, tenor, and Budd Hatch, tuba. Leader Lamare, on banjo, wears the blaziest blazer of all down front, center. They make records for Capitol.